I Don't Know the Melting Point of Sugar Glass

Her long black hair,
her fingertips just peaking
from her sleeves,

Even though
she's a girl like me,
I've noticed how pretty
and adorable she is.

A year ago,
my best friend's looks
started to catch
my eye.

I hid those feelings
in my heart to keep
them there forever,
but...

Voicing these feelings
would be impossible.

So,
thinking that
I'd rather remain
her "friend" than
be hated,

My "best friend" knew me better than I thought.

SATOKO, ABOUT THE PERSON YOU LIKE.
COULD IT BE ME?
LIKE I THOUGHT...
THAT'S HOW IT IS.

...ARE YOU REALLY OKAY WITH ME?
ARE YOU REALLY FINE WITH ME AS YOUR "SPECIAL SOMEONE"?
THEN IF IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH YOU, SATOKO,
AS FOR ME...
Smiling, Yuka,
accepted my feelings.

That anxiety still hasn't faded,
one month later.

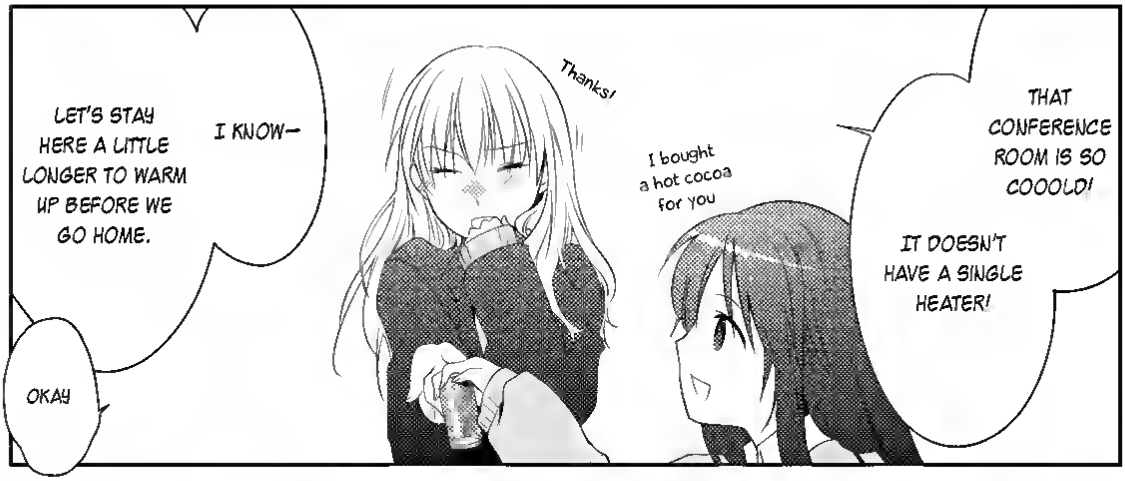
In that moment,
I rejoiced,

but at
the same time,
I couldn't help but
feel anxious.

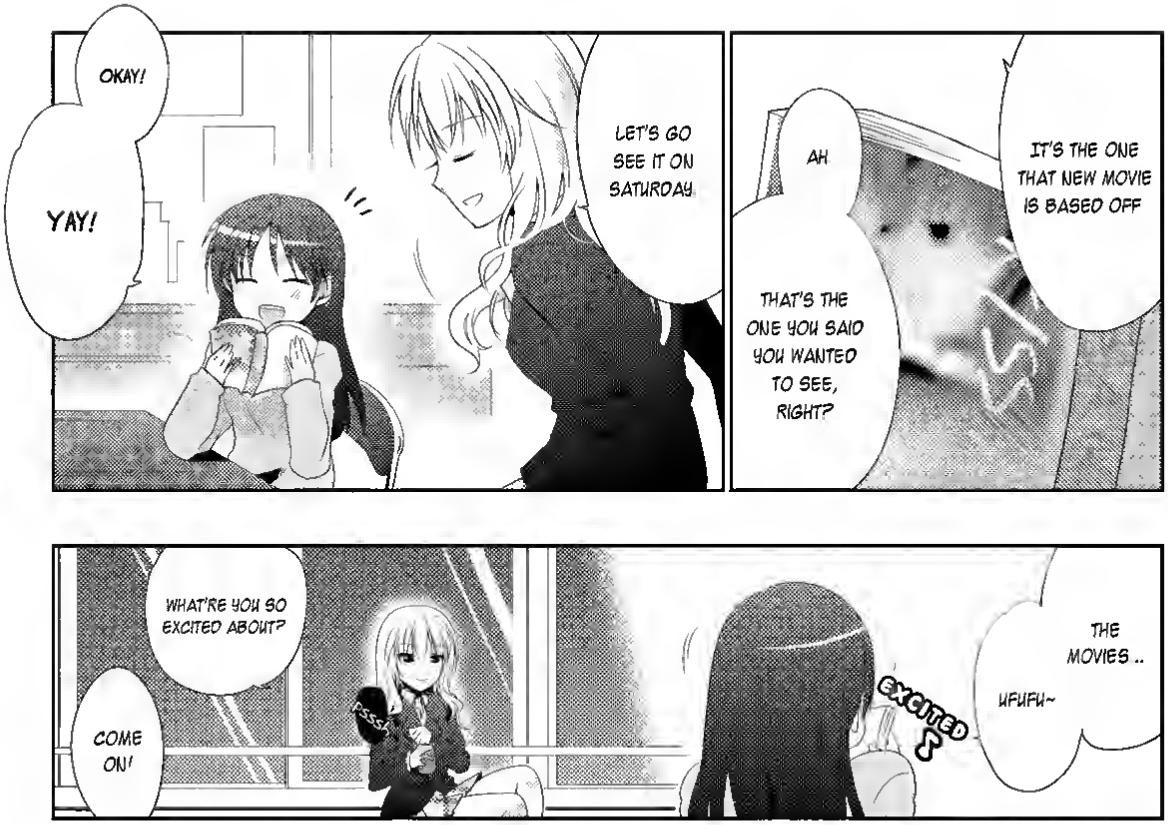
tap
tap
tap
tap
tap
dent Council
Room
OH.
GOOD WORK, SATOKO!
SORRY, YUKA.
THE COMMITTEE MEETING WENT ON LONGER THAN I THOUGHT!
RATTLE

BUT IT'S WARM IN HERE,
AND I DON'T MIND WAITING.
THAT'S GOOD...

WELL, A BIT.
IT WAS A LONG WAIT, WASN'T IT?


LET'S STAY HERE A LITTLE LONGER TO WARM UP BEFORE WE GO HOME.
I KNOW—
OKAY
Thanks!
I bought a hot cocoa for you
THAT CONFERENCE ROOM IS SO COOOLD!
IT DOESN'T HAVE A SINGLE HEATER!

WHAT'RE YOU READING?
WELL THEN, I'LL GO AHEAD AND READ A BIT MORE.


OKAY!
YAY!
LET'S GO SEE IT ON SATURDAY
AH
THAT'S THE ONE YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO SEE, RIGHT?
IT'S THE ONE THAT NEW MOVIE IS BASED OFF
WHAT'RE YOU SO EXCITED ABOUT?
COME ON!
PSSST
EXCITED
THE MOVIES ..
UFUFU~

I CAN'T WAIT! ♪
IT'S A MOVIE DATE.
IT REALLY FEELS LIKE SOMETHING LOVERS DO!

We are lovers.

BUT ISN'T IT THE TRUTH?

...YOU KEEP SAYING STUFF LIKE THAT.

She found out I like her.

She accepted my love,
for my sake.

So we are–

Lovers.

I ask myself things like, "Yuka is just acting as my lover as a favor to me, isn't she?"
And, "Isn't Yuka betraying her own feelings?"
"Just because I am her "best friend," she doesn't want to hurt me."
And—

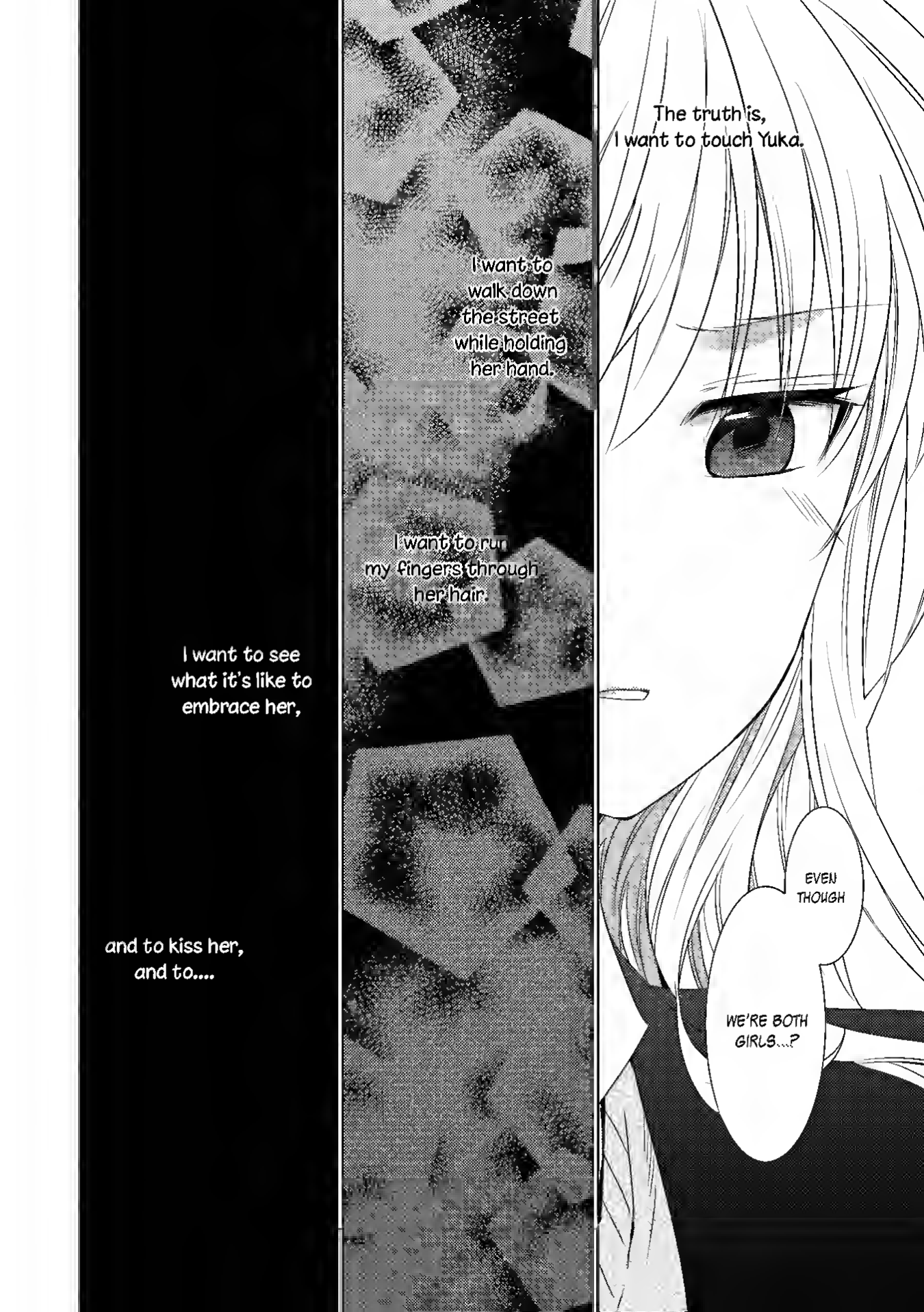
SATOKO?
gasp
YOU'VE BEEN ACTING KINDA STRANGE LATELY.
IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING, YOU CAN TALK TO ME, YOU KNOW?
...AH...
throb
...I'M FINE
IT'S NOTHING.
REALLY?
Haaah
WELL, IF YOU'RE FINE, THEN OKAY, BUT...

NOTE: WRITING TWO NAMES UNDER AN UMBRELLA IS A JAPANESE EQUIVALENT OF WRITING "YUKA ♥ SATOKO." AMONG OTHER REASONS, THE PHRASE "SHARING AN UMBRELLA" SOUNDS LIKE "LOVE-LOVE UMBRELLA."

.....
are girls' names.
both of them
...Facing each other under the shared umbrella.

...YUKA,
...I knew it. Somehow it's... wrong, isn't it?

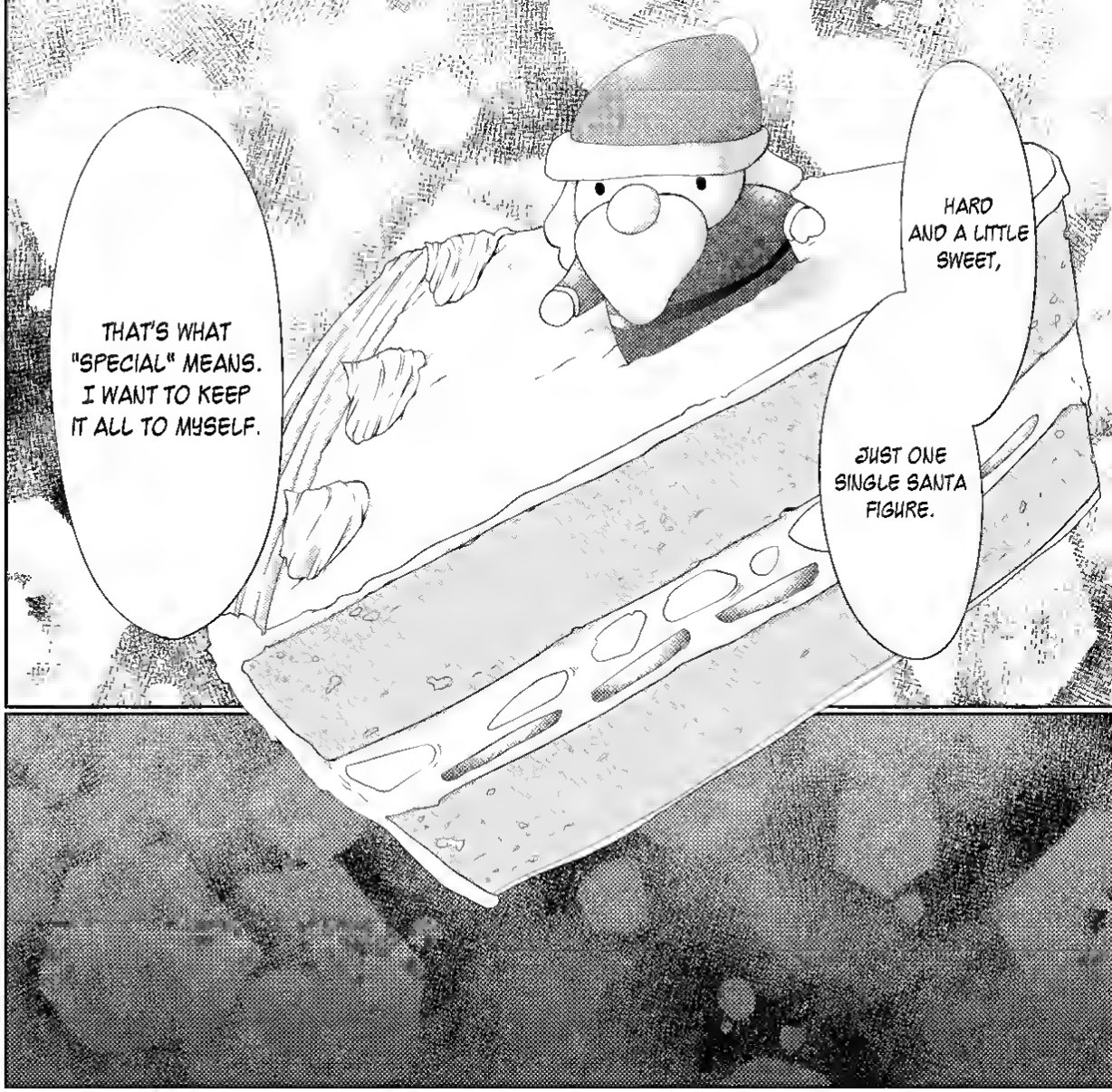
WHY DID YOU
BECOME MY "LOVER" SO READILY?


The truth is,
I want to touch Yuka.
I want to
walk down
the street
while holding
her hand.
I want to run
my fingers through
her hair.
I want to see
what it's like to
embrace her,
and to kiss her,
and to....
EVEN
THOUGH
WE'RE BOTH
GIRLS....?

Is it really
okay for me
to touch you...?

kiss

SATOKO, WHEN OTHERS ARE AROUND,
YOU ALMOST NEVER PLAY WITH ME LIKE THIS, SO...
COME ON, IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US.
YU-YUKA?
.....
Y'KNOW,
I LIKE THE CAKES WITH SANTA CLAUS ON TOP.
...HEY.
SATOKO.

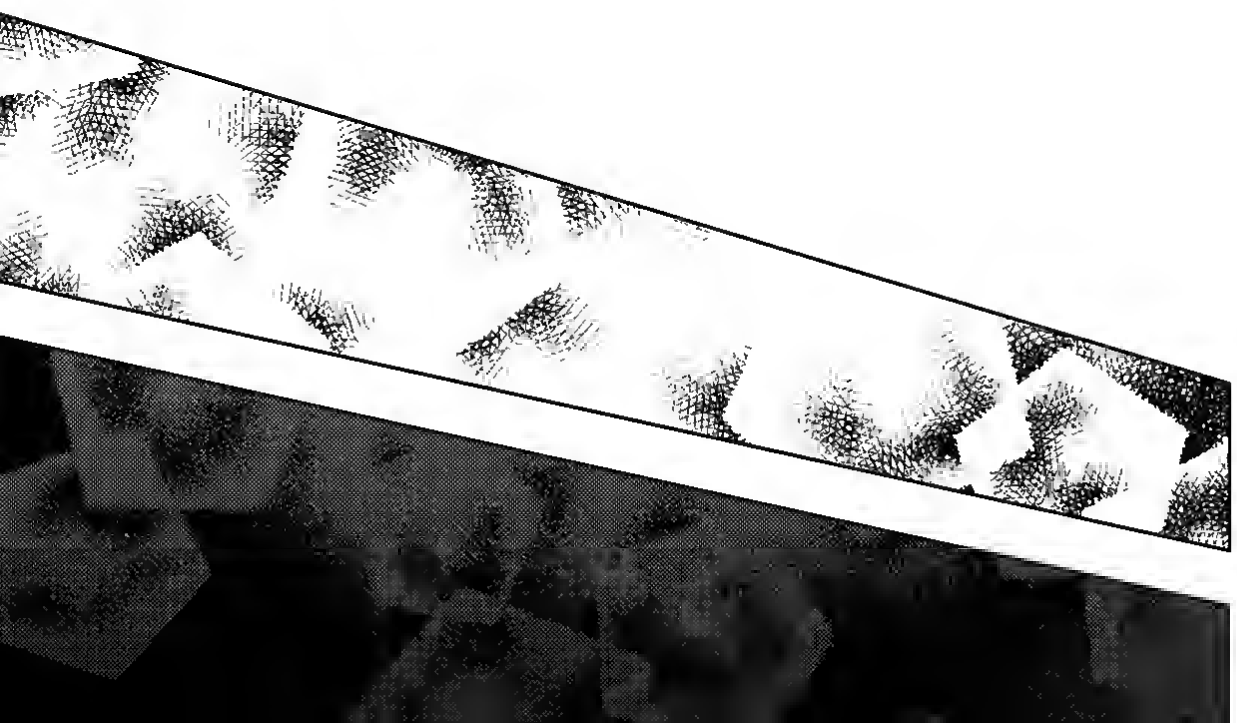

HARD AND A LITTLE SWEET,
JUST ONE SINGLE SANTA FIGURE.
THAT'S WHAT "SPECIAL" MEANS. I WANT TO KEEP IT ALL TO MYSELF.

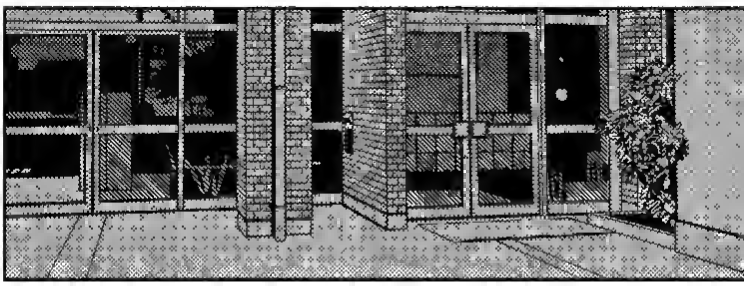
I WANT TO BE THE ONLY ONE
TO TASTE IT.

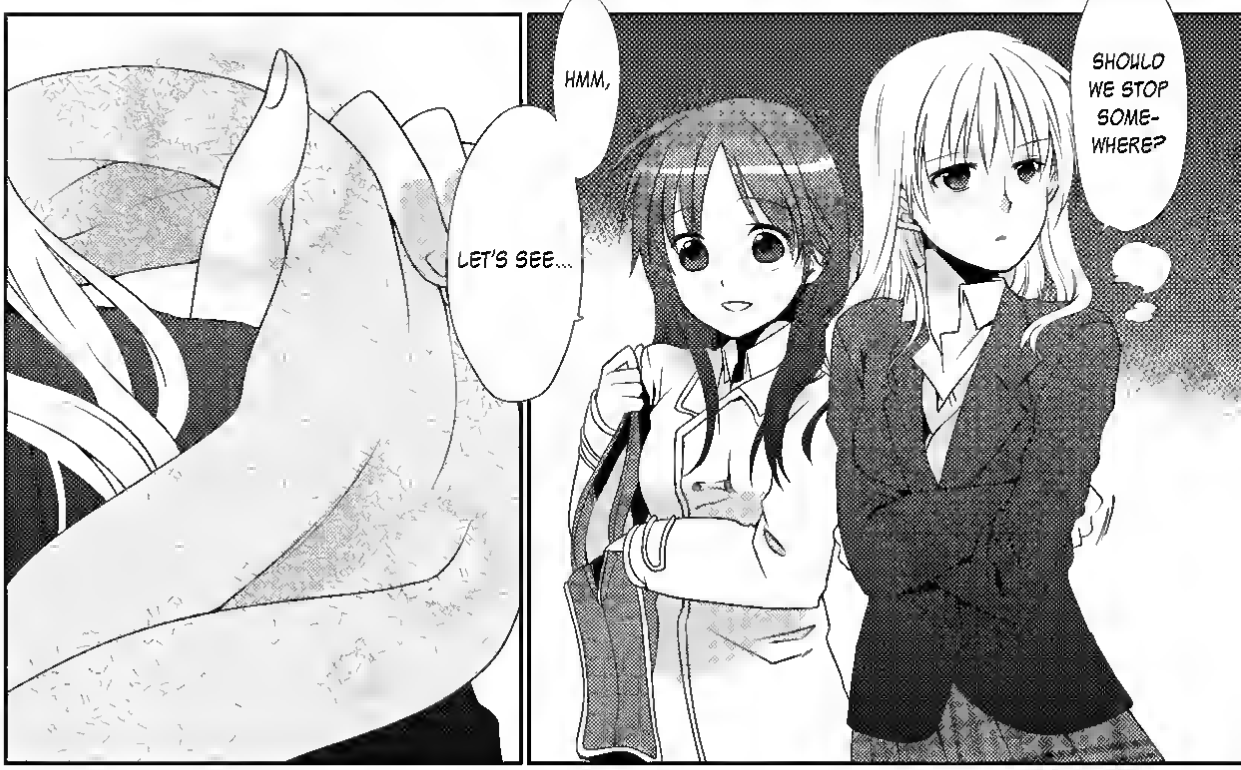
...SATOKO,
YOU PICKED OUT
THE "CAKE" THAT IS ME, RIGHT?

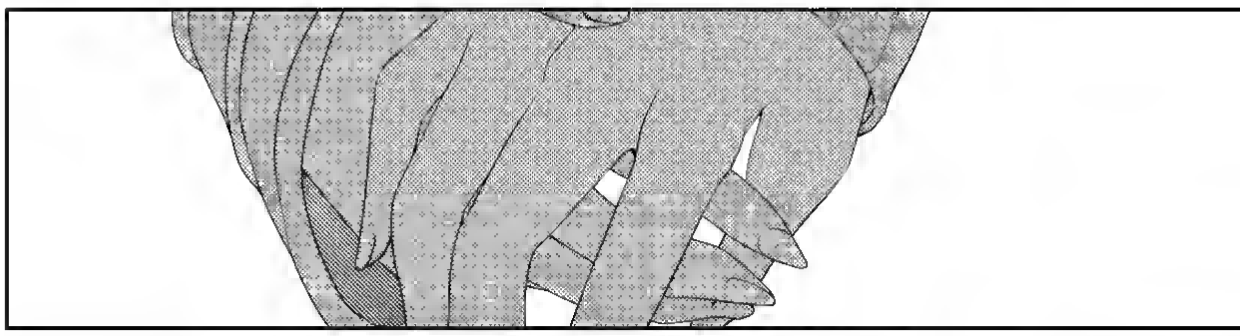
SATOKO,
IT'S OKAY.
YOU CAN MAKE
ME ALL YOURS.
SO...?

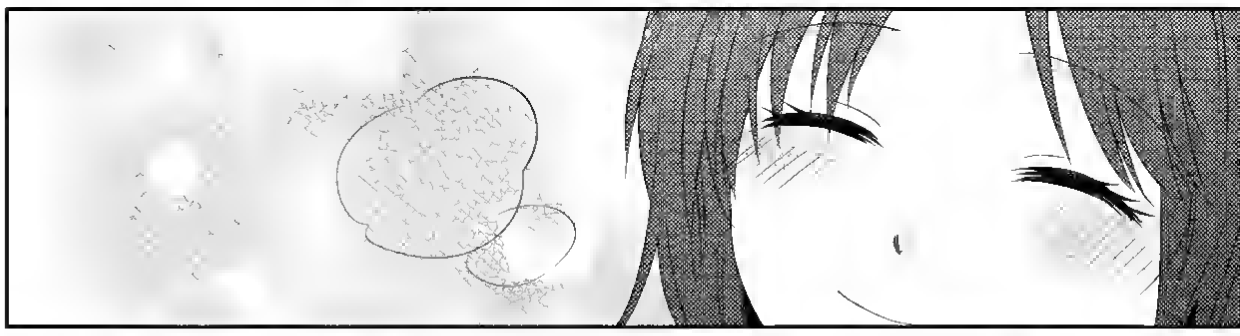
OKAY.
I UNDERSTAND.

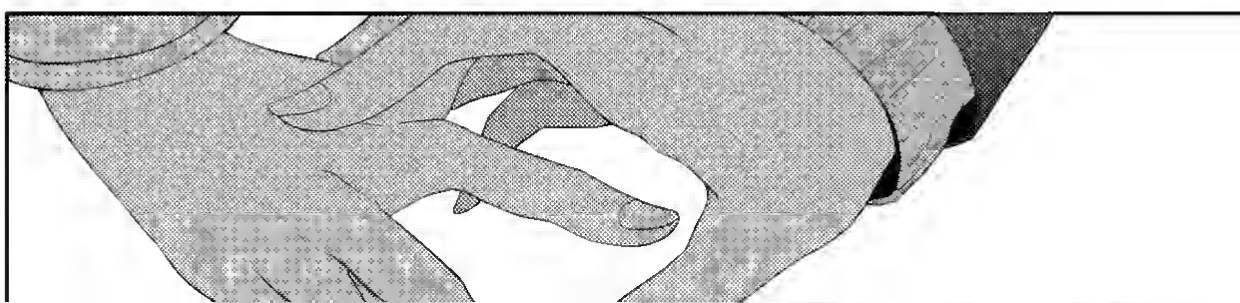





SHOULD WE STOP SOME-WHERE?
HMM,
LET'S SEE...







At your temperature,

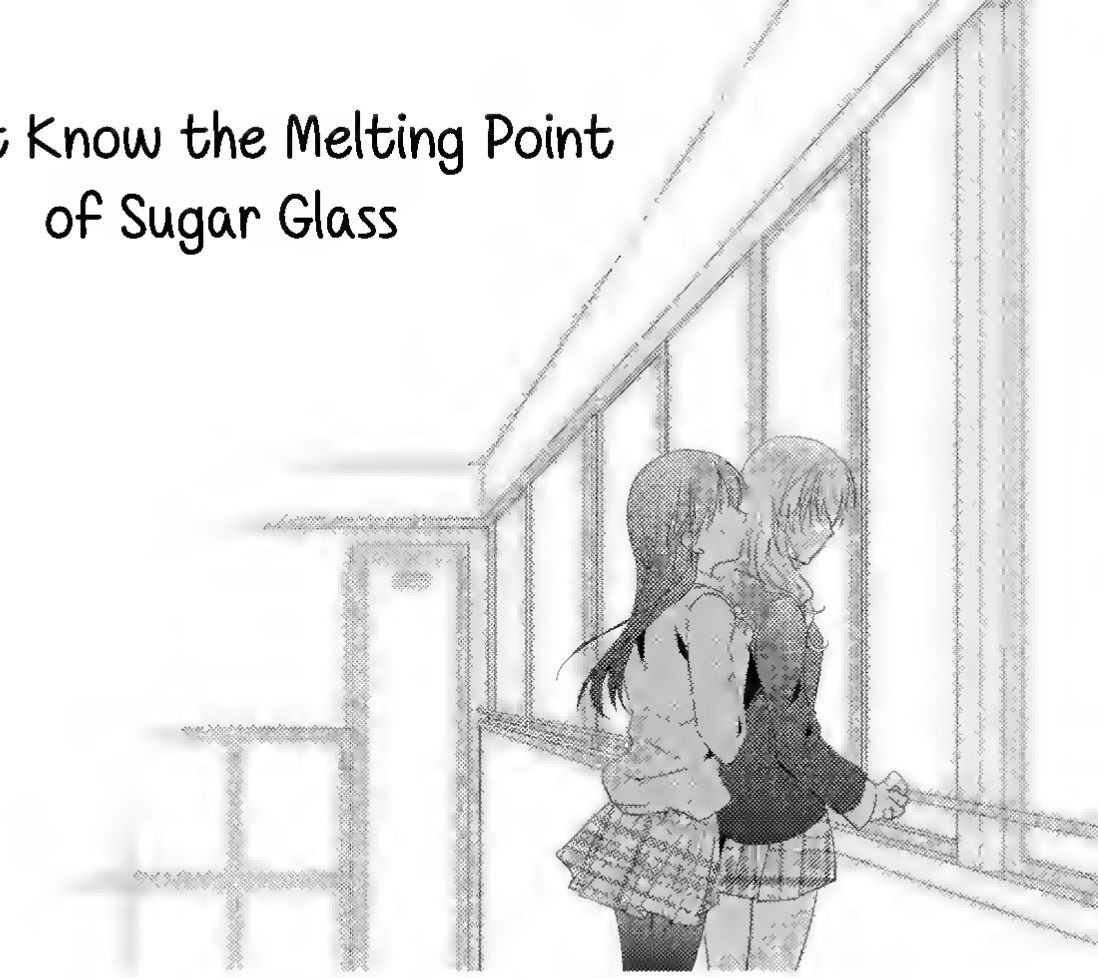
I begin to thaw.

ぎじしき
ミニクレット

RAINBO

SECRET

I Don't Know the Melting Point of Sugar Glass



RAINBOW SECRET

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